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Attorney Docket No.: 27877.51

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of
Norio HAGA et al.

Date: February 2, 1999

Serial No.: 09/171,236

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed: October 14, 1998

Examiner: Unknown

For: IMAGE PROCESING DEVICE AND IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. One copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

A copy of the Japanese language International Search Report issued in PCT patent application PCT/JP98/00677 corresponding to the present U.S. patent application is enclosed for the Examiner's consideration. An English language translation of the International Search Report is also enclosed for consideration by the Examiner.

The relevance of the non-English language prior art references submitted herewith is described in the International Search Report and in the English language Abstract attached to each of the non-English language prior art references.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three (3) months of the U.S. filing date of the present application and before the mailing date of the First Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service to Addressee as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on February 2, 1999:

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph R. Keating
Name of Registered Representative

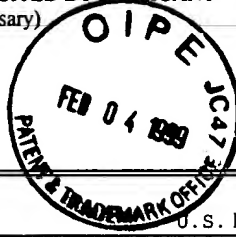
Signature

February 2, 1999
Date of Signature



Joseph R. Keating
Registration No. 37,368
Graham & James, LLP
885 Third Avenue, 21st Floor
New York, New York 10022
Telephone: (212) 848-1000

Form PTO-1449	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	ATTY. DOCKET NO.: 27877.51	SERIAL NO. 09/171,236
LIST OF DOCUMENTARY INFORMATION CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANT: Norio HAGA et al..	GROUP: Unknown
		FILING DATE: October 14, 1998	Examiner: Unknown



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
		JP 8-155143	6/18/96	JAPAN			X	
		JP 8-84861	4/2/96	JAPAN			X	
		JP 6-277362	10/4/94	JAPAN			X	
		JP 8-161530	6/21/96	JAPAN			X	
		JP 8-215432	8/27/96	JAPAN			X	
		JP 7-178242	7/18/95	JAPAN			X	

OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.